

Engineering Co-op and Career Services

March 4, 2019

McMASTER UNIVERSITY
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HAMILTON, ONTARIO
L8S 4L8

Student's Contribution to Co-operative Education

Dear Sir/Madam

Please accept this letter and the attached documents as my application for the 2018 McMaster Engineering Co-op Student of the Year Award. In this document you will find all of the supporting letters and essays. Thank you for considering my application.

Impact on Co-op and Career Services

I believe that I have had a significant impact on McMaster University and the McMaster Co-op and Career Services. My greatest contributions were working with the McMaster Center for Software Certification and expanding the McMaster network for student jobs. MCSCERT is the department where I gained real work experience. It may not seem obvious, but my work experience with MCSCERT was entirely voluntary. I was looking to get some exposure to software development so I joined the development team at McMaster to design and implement safety critical systems. I was a strong asset to the project because I had experience programming safety critical systems. The students I worked with will advocate for me when I say that I was a dependable and supportive team member. Unlike most co-op students, I did not use the McMaster co-op career network. I found my own career opportunities. This is useful to the university because it expands the network of possible student co-op positions. Northern Digital Inc. recently registered with the McMaster co-op career network and hired two McMaster students not including myself. One student is a co-op and the other is a full time graduate. Northern Digital Inc. is pleased with the co-op program at McMaster because unlike other universities it allows for a sixteen month professional development year. I have assisted with the co-op hiring process during my time at Northern Digital Inc. Soon I will be mentoring a new co-op student this summer once the selection process is completed. I hope that I can pass on some of my insight and experiences to help the new student transition into their new position with the advanced research team.

Impact on the McMaster Community

I am enthusiastic about helping people gain experience and build the skills necessary for their future career. The Mechanics community and engineering community in general is expanding. This is why networking is so important. I occasionally attend engineering events such as Hack the North, First Robotics and social events at the university. I consider myself very involved and social. I am always inclusive and conscious of others. Everyone has potential and engineering is a subject worth talking about.

Sincerely,

Bradley Kohler

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